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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 75

lower cost. The ethanol blended fuels has either been at the same price or higher for over that last...over the five-year period. The market isn't delivering your product. In the...in the initial conversations about this bill, Senator Chambers talked about, you know, making sure retailers would have to sell Coke even though most of the demand was for Pepsi, and us putting a law in place that would force them to sell Coke, and I thought that was a good ex...demonstration but it didn't really go to point. What the point is is if the Pepsi producers were the only ones selling pop, if the Pepsi producers were delivering all the soda, do you think that they would be pricing and would be selling the other products, the Coke products, at a competitive level? That's the situation we're in. The delivery system is driven by the oil retailers. They want to deliver and make as much money as they possibly can, and that's the way the markets work, but by keeping their products placed better, by keeping their products priced better, then they are able to drive the pool of all the gasolines that they sell to a higher level and it allows the industry to make more money but it doesn't deliver the best quality product at the highest level that we would like to see in the state. It's to our benefit to increase the amount of alcohol sold in fuel in Nebraska. It's to our benefit to have a cleaner burning fuel on a higher level. LB 75 will increase the amount of renewable content fuel sold in Nebraska, and so, once again, I'm in opposition to the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Jones, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, and members of the body, I've been listening to this debate and I haven't stood up yet on it, but I kind of want to stand up and explain my vote in committee. I did not support this bill out of committee and I still had some questions on it that I didn't understand, but I tell you there is a lot of opposition of it out there and there's a lot of people in support of it. So you're kind of setting right halfway between, but as I went home this last weekend, well, I had a call, said, well, why aren't you supporting it and I explained what the bill actually did. And they said, oh, well, I understand now that it is a mandate, and they didn't